



State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

6 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095
(603) 271-3503 FAX (603) 271-2982



Charley Hanson
Resource Management Inc.
P.O. Box 1081
Ashland, NH 03217

LETTER OF DEFICIENCY
WD WWEB/S 03-05
July 28, 2003

**Subject: Sludge Land Application Sites
Nutrient Management Plans**

Dear Mr. Hanson,

Over the last six months DES has been reviewing data from the 2002 Annual Report and 2002 Land Application Notification, along with ancillary data, as submitted by Resource Management Incorporated (RMI). The review has revealed the following deficiencies:

- 1 Biosolids were land applied in excess of the agronomic rate on 39 land application sites during the 2002 calendar year, which is a violation of Env-Ws 806.08(a) of the *New Hampshire Sludge Management Rules*. The excess biosolids applied to the sites was approximately 1,842 wet tons total.
- 2 The agronomic rate calculation performed by RMI during the 2002 calendar year used methodology that was not in accordance with the nutrient management plan contained in the permit application, which is a violation of Env-Ws 806.08(a). Specifically, RMI used mineralization rates for biosolids that are not in accordance with University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension (UNH Coop Ext) *Best Management Practices: Biosolids*, which is the stated basis of the nutrient management plan in the permit application documents, and therefore subsequent permits.
- 3 The change in methodology to calculate the agronomic rate constitutes a modification to the management plan contained in the permits, and no filing for permit modifications was made by RMI to seek DES approval of this prior to the implementation of the change, which is a violation of Env-Ws 804.08(c).

RMI has represented that the primary cause of the deficiency cited in Item 1 was a systems management problem caused by a disconnect between the computer system used to calculate agronomic rates, and the computer system used to schedule sludge deliveries to sites. RMI has stated that efforts are underway to remedy this problem so that it won't happen in the future. Please provide DES with a written report with an overview of the systems management problem, what is being done to correct it, and what the anticipated corrected system will be and when the correction will be realized.

DES believes the deficiencies cited in Items 2 and 3 can be immediately corrected, by RMI following the UNH Coop Ext *Best Management Practices: Biosolids* for calculating agronomic rates. DES requests written confirmation of the correction.



DES has reviewed the documentation offered by RMI in support of the modified agronomic rate calculation methodology, specifically the first year mineralization rate of lime-stabilized sludge, and has determined, in consultation with UNH Coop Ext, that the data included in the documentation is not extensive enough to warrant DES acceptance of the modified mineralization rate.

The written reports as requested above should be delivered by August 15, 2003 to:

Alexis Rastorguyeff, P.E.
Residuals Management Section
NHDES Water Division
P.O. Box 95
6 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03302-0095

This Letter Of Deficiency does not preclude DES from initiating formal actions, including issuing an order requiring the deficiency to be corrected, initiating an administrative fine proceeding and/or referring the matter to the NH Department of Justice for imposition of penalties.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please call me at (603) 271-3571 or Alexis Rastorguyeff at (603) 271-7888.

Sincerely,

 **COPY**

Richard A. Flanders, Supervisor
Residuals Management Section
Wastewater Engineering Bureau

cc: file/db
Alexis Rastorguyeff, P.E. – RMS
Harry Stewart, P.E. – Director WD
John Bush, P.E. – Administrator WEB
Mark Harbaugh – DES Legal